

E-01933A-09-0340

ORIGINAL



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OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMIS

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM
RECEIVED

Investigator: Al Amezcua

Phone: 2011 JAN 11 A 9:58

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Inquiry No. 2011 - 92446

DOCKET CONTROL

Date: 1/10/2011

Complaint Description: 08E Rate Cases Items - In Favor
N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By:

Craig

Cristello

Account Name:

Craig & Kristi Cristello

Home: (000) 000-0000

Street:

n/a

Work: (000) 000-0000

City:

n/a

CBR:

State:

AZ

Zip: 00000

is: E-Mail

Utility Company:

Tucson Electric Power Company

Division:

Electric

Contact Name:

Cara Ruben

Contact Phone:

Nature of Complaint:

E-01933A-09-0340

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Friday, January 07, 2011 1:41 PM

To: Utilities Div - Mailbox

Cc:

Subject: Proposed Solar Farm

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

JAN 11 2011

DOCKETED BY

To whom it may concern:

I am one of the three Tierra Linda properties with an unobstructed view of the proposed solar farm and I support the project but have some concerns:

1) The proposed fence does not appear acceptable for blocking reflections off the panels or the supporting metal structures. How do you plan on eliminating reflections from the back of my home which is about 70% sliding glass doors and windows? This is also a concern for my son who is only one and should not have to worry about constant reflections into his home, I would call this a potential health concern for my son.

2) I purchased this home with the idea of a great view, I don't mind a solar farm behind my home as long as it does not take away from the enjoyment of my home or de-value my purchase. A block wall painted would certainly minimize reflections and look more appropriate than a cyclonic fence (as well as helping resale value). This would also in my opinion be an acceptable resolution to a potential health concern for my son.

3) Without a block wall to block the dust that will blow across the street into my back yard and into my pool; how do you plan to control the dust problem that will certainly arise?

4) A block wall would also block the noise that will be present no matter how small. I can tell you from living here the valley amplifies noises, and a cyclonic fence will only allow noise to pass unobstructed to my home. This would lead to potential noise complaints with the county. My question is how do you plan to control the noise so

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that it does not impact my quality of life?

Others have stated they support this project as well, but with the significant long term revenue generated from this project the right thing to do for the Tierra Linda community as well as my property would be to address these concerns. I look forward to hearing your solutions to these issues.

Sincerely,
Craig and Kristi Cristello
Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry
End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

1/10/11
-----Original Message-----
From: Al Amezcua
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2011 10:55 AM
To:
Cc: Ray Williamson; Al Amezcua
Subject: FW: Proposed Solar Farm

Good morning Mr. and Mrs. Craig Cristello,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email dated January 7, 2011. Our engineering department has questions for you and would like to get some answers before we can comment.

Where is Tierra Linda? Who is building the "solar farm?" Who is the contact for the developer or builder? Is any Arizona utility involved with the project? Has the project gone through county zoning approvals process? Have there been any public meetings? Have there been any newspaper articles about the project?

We can't comment if we don't know about the project.

Sincerely,

Alfonso Amezcua
Public Utilities Consumer Analyst II
Arizona Corporation Commission
Utilities Division - Consumer Services

1/10/11 Email from Mr. Cristello
From:
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2011 11:15 AM
To: Al Amezcua
Subject: Fw: Corporation Commission Hearing

Hi Al,
Thanks for your response, this was the e-mail I was sent to send in my concerns, is this the right place to send

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it?

----- Original Message -----

From:

To: Craig Cristello

Sent: Thursday, January 06, 2011 7:30 PM

Subject: Fw: Corporation Commission Hearing

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Mike Menzel

Date: Thu, 6 Jan 2011 16:26:17 -0700

To: bdvnrv VARLEY

Dear Friends,

Attached is the Procedural Order from the Arizona Corporation Commission. The hearing is to take place on the afternoon of Tuesday, January 11th. We have been asked to be there by 1:00 PM but it is possible we may not be heard until 2:00 or 3:00 so bring a good book. :)

The Procedural Order states the purpose of the hearing is "for the limited purpose of considering whether sufficient efforts have been made to mitigate impacts to Rick Westfall's property by the photovoltaic project being developed by Fotowatio Renewable Ventures." This is because it was Rick who filed the request with the Commission which is why it doesn't mention anyone else. However his concerns are precisely the same as ours: the fence.

The Commission is soliciting comments on the issue which must be received by close of business Monday, January 10th. We will be e-mailing out comments to the Utilities Division of the Corporation Commission. Their e-mail address is: mailmaster@cc.state.az.us and their snail mail address is:

Arizona Corporation Commission
Utilities Division
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

If you share our concerns with the way this thing seems to be going down, please send them your comments. The larger the number, the larger the impact they will have on the Commission.

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Once again, there will be an organizational meeting this evening (Thursday) at 6:30 at Rick's home which is at the corner of Sanders and Emigh.

Thanks again for your interest and support. Hopefully our combined efforts will bear fruit.

Best Regards,

Mike & Dee Menzel

A copy of the P.O. case 09-0340 was attached.

1/10/11 Email

From:

Sent: Monday, January 10, 2011 11:17 AM

To: Al Amezcua

Subject: Fw: Solar Farm Meetings

Al,

Here is my neighbors e-mail, is this a project you are not familiar with?

Thanks,

Craig

----- Original Message -----

From:

To: Craig Cristello

Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 8:41 PM

Subject: Fw: Solar Farm Meetings

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: Mike Menzel

Date: Wed, 5 Jan 2011 19:55:21 -0700

To: bdvnr VARLEY

Cc: Rick & Marla Westfall

Subject: Solar Farm Meetings

Dear Friends,

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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After receiving the e-mail from Bruce notifying us of the Pima County Board of Supervisors hearing to be held on January 18th, I sent Supervisor Sharon Bronson the following e-mail:

Dear Supervisor Bronson,

First, let me say that I support the construction of the proposed 25-megawatt solar farm. The country needs renewable energy sources and I have never been one to say "Great idea, but not in my backyard."

Nonetheless, I am a resident of Tierra Linda, an upscale housing development that lies due south, and immediately across the street from, the proposed project. I am also one of only three homeowners with an unobstructed view of what will be a sea of solar panels.

It has always been my (apparently misguided) understanding that an aesthetically pleasing block wall was to be erected around the property to at least mask the presence of 300 acres of photovoltaic cells. However it has just come to my attention that a (less expensive) chain link fence is what has in fact been planned.

Since this installation will impact the property values of hundreds of local residents, I'm asking that the Board of Supervisors require that an esthetically pleasing block wall be erected around the property in order for the project to secure the Board's final approval. Since this facility will be generating power (and profits) for decades to come, I don't think it's asking too much that the developer be required to be as good a "good neighbor" as possible.

This whole undertaking is, after all, a commercial venture from which profits are to be made. All I'm asking is that, in the pursuit of a return on their investment, the developers don't irrevocably damage the return on the investments of all of us living side-by-side with their profit center.

Hopefully, through the good graces of the Pima County Board of Supervisors, this issue can find a satisfactory resolution.

Sincerely,

Mike Menzel

I was pleasantly surprised when Sharon called the next evening to inform me that it was her understanding that the developers were, in fact, taking the cheapest route, a chain link fence with some sort of landscaping that is supposed to "fill in" and eventually shield the facility from view. She feels, as do I, that an esthetically pleasing block wall should be erected to keep what could be, in many people's eyes, an eyesore. She further said she intended to raise that very issue at the Board of Supervisors hearing on January 18th.

Nonetheless, at this juncture it appears as though the entire project is pretty much a "done deal," and that we'll be living with that chain link fence regardless of what happens at the Supervisors meeting. However there is still a chance for us to make this right.

On either Tuesday or Wednesday of next week, the Arizona Corporation Commission, which regulates public utilities, will be holding a hearing in Phoenix to decide whether or not to re-open the approval process so that our voices can be heard before this thing is etched in concrete. The hearing will be held at 1200 W. Washington in Phoenix and I'll be contacting everyone when I have a specific date and time.

I will be attending the hearing and would encourage anyone else in Tierra Linda to attend in order to send the Corporation Commission the message that we are concerned that our wants and needs are being ignored. If

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anyone would like to carpool up with me please give me a call at _____ I can take three additional people and will be happy to pick you up anywhere in the Tucson area.

I know many of you have work schedules that will preclude your attending the hearing in person but if you have concerns about the negative impact this facility could have on our property values and want a say, I have a petition to present to the Corporation Commission. Please give me a call and I will be happy to bring it by for your signatures. The more signatures we get, the more influence we'll have and we need to get these signatures quickly so all our ducks are in a row prior to the hearing.

Tomorrow night at 6:30 PM there will be a get together to discuss the project's impact on us and what we can do about it at Rick and Marla Westfall's house at the corner of Sanders and Emigh. If you'd like to contact Rick, his phone is _____ and his email is _____. If you're as concerned about the heavy handed way in which the solar farm's approval process has been handled, please come.

As I wrote to Supervisor Bronson, I'm in overall favor of the project. I just don't want to live cheek-by-jowl with an eyesore that will be assaulting our senses and wrecking our property values for decades to come. Thanks in advance for your interest and support.

Best Regards,

Mike Menzel

1/10/11
From: Al Amezcua
Date: Mon, 10 Jan 2011 13:54:20 -0700
To:
Subject: RE: Solar Farm meetings

Good afternoon Mr. Cristello,

I have located the case that you are interested in filing an opinion. At this time I will do so, your comments will be entered in our database and also docketed in the official record. I was informed that it is on the Open Meeting Agenda scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday January 11 and 12, 2011.

Thank you,

Alfonso Amezcua
Public Utilities Consumer Analyst II
Arizona Corporation Commission
Utilities Division - Consumer Services

1/10/11 Email
From:
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2011 3:39 PM
To: Al Amezcua
Subject: Re: Solar Farm Meetings

Thank you Al, your help is greatly appreciated.

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Sincerely,

Craig

End of Comments

Date Completed: 1/10/2011

Inquiry No. 2011 - 92446
